

a body having an outwardly exposed surface when so positioned; and

4 a substance causing<sup>1</sup> at least the outwardly exposed surface to contrast with  
surrounding tissue,<sup>1</sup> such that the use of the substance causes the plug to be more easily<sup>1</sup>

6 visualized than if the substance were not present.

3. The punctum plug of claim 1, wherein the substance is disposed within the  
2 plug body.

5. The punctum plug of claim 1, wherein the plug is illuminated with light at an illumination wavelength, and wherein the substance generates radiated light at a wavelength other than the illumination wavelength.

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2 the violet or ultraviolet portion of the spectrum.

7. The punctum plug of claim 5, wherein the radiated light is in the visible  
2 spectrum.

8. The punctum plug of claim 5, wherein the radiated light is outside the  
2 visible spectrum, the invention further including a detector for detecting the radiated  
light.

9. A system for determining whether or not a punctum plug is positioned  
2 within the punctal canal of a person's eye, the system comprising:

the punctum plug of claim 1; and  
4 at least one optical element permitting the eye to view itself, to be viewed by the  
other eye, or by a second person.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the optical element includes a source of  
2 light at one or more illumination wavelengths causing the plug to reflect or re-radiate  
light.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the light which is reflected or re-radiated  
2 by the plug occurs at one or more wavelengths which are different from the illumination  
wavelength or wavelengths.

12. The system of claim 11, further including a filter to block or separate the  
2 reflected or re-radiated wavelength(s) from the illumination wavelength(s).

13. The system of claim 11, further including a detector to detect the reflected  
2 or re-radiated wavelength(s).

14. The system of claim 9, wherein the optical element includes a magnifier.

15. The system of claim 9, wherein the optical element includes a beam  
2 splitter or mirror permitting the eye to view itself or to be viewed by the other eye, or by  
a second person.

16. Apparatus for viewing a punctum plug illuminated by a source of light in a  
2 person's eye, comprising:

a lens for magnifying the image of the punctum plug;

4 at least one light redirecting element for presenting the magnified image of the  
plug to an eye of an observer; and

6 one or more optical element for blocking the light from the source of light from  
reaching the observer's eye.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, including a plurality of light redirecting

